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April 13, 2004

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Vincenzo SESTITO, Giorgio CAZZANIGA  
TRAIL/PATH PROTECTION FOR SDH/SONET NETWORKS  
Assignee: ALCATEL  
Our Ref. Q80624

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto is the application identified above comprising 18 sheets of the specification, including the claims and abstract, 8 sheets of drawings, a copy of the executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form, and a copy of the executed Declaration and Power of Attorney. Also enclosed are an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified), and Preliminary Amendment.

**PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT BEFORE  
CALCULATING THE FEE**

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

|                           |         |   |  |   |         |   |                 |
|---------------------------|---------|---|--|---|---------|---|-----------------|
| Total claims              | 19 - 20 | = |  | x | \$18.00 | = | \$0.00          |
| Independent claims        | 2 - 3   | = |  | x | \$86.00 | = | \$0.00          |
| Base Fee                  |         |   |  |   |         |   | \$770.00        |
| <b>TOTAL FILING FEE</b>   |         |   |  |   |         |   | <b>\$770.00</b> |
| Recordation of Assignment |         |   |  |   |         |   | \$40.00         |
| <b>TOTAL FEE</b>          |         |   |  |   |         |   | <b>\$810.00</b> |

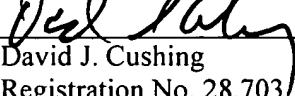
Checks for the statutory filing fee of \$770.00 and Assignment recordation fee of \$40.00 are attached. The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

Priority is claimed from:

| <u>Country</u> | <u>Application No</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Europe         | 03292866.5            | November 12, 2003  |

The priority document is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,  
SUGHRUE MION, PLLC  
Attorneys for Applicant

By:   
David J. Cushing  
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